PRINCETON UNIVERSITY REUNIONS
MUSIC & FIREWORKS

Saturday, June 3 -- Finney Field

8:00 P.M. LAWN CONCERT
Princeton University Orchestra
Michael Pratt S82, Conductor

Featuring: Selections from La Cenerentola (Rossini), Sleeping Beauty (Tchaikovsky), favorites from stage and screen, plus music by John Philip Sousa.

9:15 P.M. FIREWORKS
By the Santore Brothers of Garden State Fireworks
Choreography by Chris Santore

A PDF of this program is available at http://m.princeton.edu/reunions. Fireworks soundtrack simulcast at www.wprb.com
CONCERT PROGRAM

Princeton University Orchestra
Michael Pratt S82, conductor

Overture to \textit{La Cenerentola} (Cinderella) \quad Gioachino Rossini

Highlights from \textit{Hello, Dolly!} \quad Jerry Herman/arr. Muller

\textit{The Sleeping Beauty} Waltz (Op. 66, Act I) \quad Pytor Tchaikovsky

"Carmen Fantasie" (after Bizet) \quad Franz Waxman

Emma Powell ’17, Violin

"Pirates of the Caribbean" Medley from \textit{Curse of the Black Pearl} \quad Klaus Badelt/arr. Ricketts

\textit{Star Wars} Medley \quad John Williams

"The Washington Post March" \quad John Phillip Sousa

"The Stars and Stripes Forever" \quad John Phillip Sousa

"Old Nassau" \quad Harlan Peck, Class of 1862/

Karl Langlotz

\textbf{Princeton University Orchestra}

The Princeton University Orchestra began with a group of professional musicians from the New York Symphony and Philharmonic Societies who performed a series of concerts at Alexander Hall in 1896. The proceeds were “devoted to the funds for the establishment of a School of Music for the Study of Musical Composition, Theory, and History at Princeton University.” Over the ensuing century, the Orchestra has become an almost exclusively student organization, some 100 undergraduate and graduate musicians representing a broad spectrum of academic departments come together for concerts in Richardson Auditorium in Alexander Hall.

Participation in the Orchestra is voluntary and extracurricular; students commit many hours to rehearsal over and above the time required for academic coursework. Graduates of the Orchestra have gone on to be performers, music teachers, and arts administrators, but the comprehensive list of occupations is as diverse as Princeton itself.

Tonight completing 40 years under the direction of Michael Pratt, the Orchestra performs from 10 to 16 times each year both on campus and touring. Last fall, it premiered the Piano Concerto of faculty member Juri Seo. This spring, the Orchestra combined forces with the Glee Club to perform Mozart’s \textit{Requiem} to packed houses in Richardson Auditorium.

The Orchestra serves an important role in Princeton’s Department of Music by both reading and performing new works by graduate students in composition. It periodically engages in special collaborations across campus with other performance-oriented groups and departments, and is also typically called on to perform at special University functions.

The Orchestra has represented Princeton in New York concert halls and on tour across Europe, from Edinburgh to Lisbon, and from London to Budapest. In January 2017, the Orchestra toured Central Europe: Prague, Vienna, Bratislava (Slovakia), and Budapest.

\textbf{Garden State Fireworks}

In 1890, more than 25 years after apprenticing to the Italian king’s master fireworker, Augustine Santore opened his first fireworks plant in New Jersey. The Santore family continues to supervise fireworks construction at their company, Garden State Fireworks (GSF).

The Santore brothers are renowned for their Italian style, multi-break “exhibition” shells. They are now also major producers of stage pyrotechnics, quick-match fuses, exhibition candles, and set piece materials. They are major suppliers to many other display firms, including the Disney organization, today the world’s largest consumer of fireworks. In 1985 the Santores added a new dimension to the fireworks world: a pyrotechnics display perfectly choreographed to a musical score, which soon became a cornerstone of the Santores’ world-class productions. In 2006, computer-based synchronization arrived. Most recently GSF has become known for close-proximity effects used in stadiums and on concert stages.

For Princeton, the GSF collaboration began with the Office of the 250th Anniversary in 1996. GSF is legendary in the world of pyrotechnics for having won four International World Fireworks championships in four competitions (two each in San Sebastian, Spain and Monte Carlo, France). Current displays of note include the National Mall in Washington, D.C. (July 4); Mandalay Bay Resort (Las Vegas, July 4); Inn of the Mountain Gods (July 4, largest in New Mexico); the New London, CT, Sailfest (July 8), plus weekly summertime shows in the NY/NJ area at Coney Island Beach, NY (Fridays, June through August). GSF produces many kinds of stadium shows: Major League Soccer games around the nation, plus the MLS All-Star and Cup Championship game; Wrestlemania 33 (Orlando); and stage pyro for rock/pop concert tours (2017: Metallica at Met Life Stadium).
A Message from the Fireworks Producer and Choreographer

Welcome to the 2017 Reunions Fireworks. Your veteran fireworks team of Dorothy Bedford ’78, Executive Producer, and Christopher Santore, Choreographer, work closely to create an exciting, custom show. We thank the Alumni Association for its generous sponsorship of the fireworks display. Here’s some background.

Each winter we consider class reunion themes, and other timely events or anniversaries to find music for our soundtrack. The 2017 Reunions themes range from “Tigeritaville” (Class of 1987) to Star Wars spin-offs (Classes of 1977 and 2012). This year we honor the ¡Adelante Tigres! Alumni Conference with “El Mismo Sol” (“The Same Sun”), and reflect on Chuck Berry’s life with “Johnny B. Goode.”

As spring approaches, we trade song ideas and build a pool of possible tracks, everything from classical to movie themes to pop hits old and new. Sometimes we agree on a perfect clip of music referencing a reunion theme, but hit a snag. Typically a rejected piece lacks choreographic “sizzle,” or can’t find a natural home in the soundtrack sequence. We evaluate each selection’s pacing, length, audience appeal and recognition factor while assuring the integration of the whole into a solid foundation for choreography. A successful soundtrack finds ways to engage viewers ages 5 to 85. Dramatic tone and tempo changes deliver theatrical intensity by exploiting Garden State Fireworks’ vast library of pyrotechnic effects and its computerized firing systems.

With all that, we are pleased to present eight songs honoring nine Reunions themes. By mid-April the soundtrack is finalized and Chris Santore, a fourth-generation pyro-technician, digs deep to interpret the story embedded in the music. Every minute of display time may require two to five hours of choreographic planning. Listening repeatedly to the soundtrack, he constantly reworks how he imagines the sky illuminating. Chris balances aerial and ground effects, considering colors and sound, size and shape. A state of the art pyro-musical choreography software suite, which allows split-second timing of bursts, is an essential tool, but ultimately the creative vision first unfolds in the mind’s eye, waiting to be born in the night sky.

Each display is crafted from scratch and takes several hundred hours to produce, lasts between 22-24 minutes, and is only seen once. It is not unlike producing and opening a play for one night only, with no dress rehearsals. The total number of aerial and ground shells we launch: over 5,000. Chris Santore’s choreography notes appear separately.

On the “Glossary of Fireworks” page, you will find a simple glossary of common terms and effects. However, many shells are custom-designed and manufactured by Garden State specifically to the Princeton 2017 soundtrack. They aren’t listed! We encourage each spectator to form their own interpretation of the display as you experience it, informed by an appreciation of the creative process.

Sincerely, Dorothy Bedford ’78 and Chris Santore

Notes on the Fireworks Soundtrack and Choreography

I Back to the Future Overture, from Back to the Future (Alan Silvestri and The Outatime Orchestra). This stirring symphonic piece by noted film composer Silvestri salutes the Class of 1992, “Orange and Black to the Future.” Gold strobe shells laced with greens and blues open tonight’s display; the strobe’s glitter accents the cymbal splashes. See the Flux Capacitor, which enables time travel, displayed as a ‘Y’ in a circle pattern shell! Red crossettes of energy burst on the scene. A fun rush of silver gerbs trailed by flame mortars mark the Delorean’s launch, Back to the Future!

II The Orange and the Black (C. Mitchell, Class of 1889, arr. E Carter, 1888, sung by The Roaring Twenty). This traditional Princeton favorite ornaments our custom soundtrack. Orange is a difficult color to produce in fireworks, not often seen, so we use it lavishly. Look for orange peonies and imported Japanese orange strobes.

III Johnny B. Goode (Chuck Berry) The Class of ’82 “Bands Together” perfectly to this much-loved song. Tonight we also remember Berry, who refined and developed rhythm and blues into the major elements making rock and roll distinctive. Cracking crossover aerial shells and an array of cracking ground comets mark the opening riff. Silver whistles scream during the guitar solo. Blue comets wave in a rapid zigzag to the chorus. Custom cracking and red comets push the tempo as red, white and blue shells echo Johnny’s mother’s words: “Maybe, someday, your name will be in lights.”

IV The Magnificent Seven Main Title from The Magnificent Seven (Elmer Bernstein). Celebrating the Class of 2002, “Happy Tails ’02 You,” this iconic piece by master composer Bernstein has said “Western” to generations, and ranks eighth on the American Film Institute’s top 25 film scores. Custom Gold Flitter mines punctuate the opening notes in the foreground. Ring pattern shells high mimic the lassos and wagon wheels of the West, while Sky Blue dahlias evoke that “big sky” feeling. Custom Glittering Streamer crossettes appear above Gold Flitter comets in the foreground as sunset approaches; the final blue and white peonies signal twilight.

V Margaritaville (Jimmy Buffett and the Coral Reefer Band) Jimmy says, “Changes in latitude, changes in attitude” so relax here at 40.3573° N, aka “Tigeritaville,” while we honor the Class of 1997’s 20th Reunion. To set this micro island scene, custom red umbrella shells pop open. Green coconut trees overhang the beach and unique Pink and Aqua crossettes evoke the Caribbean color palette. Gold Brocade coconut trees and red and silver sunflowers wave farewell.

VI This is What You Came For (written by Calvin Harris; sung by Rihanna). Barbadian singer Rihanna currently ranks fourth in all-time number-one hits (after The Beatles, Elvis Presley and Mariah Carey). White strobing waterfall shells blink to the opening vocals. Color “bees” twist and zoom to the ‘you’ vocal loop. White dahlias with red strobing pistils build the pre-chorus punctuated by multi-salute sleeten shells. The chorus features red, white and multi-color strobe shells blinking, rave-like, over white strobe flares on the ground.

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Notes on the Fireworks Soundtrack and Choreography (continued)

XI  Old Nassau (Peck 1886/Langlotz. Tigertones/Tigerlilies & the Princeton University Band). No Princeton gathering is complete without this song. Orange display shells honor Princeton’s colors.

XII  Can’t Stop the Feeling from Trolls (written and sung by Justin Timberlake) This disco-style Number One hit in 16 countries sends our viewers off to dance the night away. Custom Gold Flitter streamer shells ripple to the electric wavy intro lyrics. Smile Face pattern shells illustrate the jubilation. Glittering Gold weeping dahlias accent the break-down before we unleash the grand finale.

We hope you enjoy the presentation. Please feel free to leave feedback via email to csantore@gardenstatefireworks.com, referencing Princeton.

Dedication

For my father August. You still teach me something new every day and continue to inspire and motivate me. C.S.

In Memoriam: For William G. Bowen ’58, a transformative personality, who led with head, hands and heart. D.B.

Medical Service

Princeton Reunions activities enjoy a large attendance, and medical emergencies both large and small can be expected. If you or a companion need assistance for a bee sting, cardiac symptoms, or anything in between, medical help is available. For the Lawn Concert and Fireworks at Finney Field, emergency aid workers are stationed at the following locations marked by red cross signs: Princeton Stadium (north plaza) and FitzRandolph Road Gate (opposite side of field). If you experience any discomfort during or after the presentation, emergency workers are ready to assist you.

First aid services are provided by Princeton First Aid and Rescue Squad.

Credits: Dorothy L. Bedford ’78, event producer; Christopher Santore, fireworks choreographer; Nicole Lynch, associate producer. Soundstage courtesy of Skylands Audio. Printing: Office of University Printing and Mailing, Forrestal Campus. Radio & webcast courtesy WPRB 103.3 FM and WPRB.com

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